Cases involving Ministers

1917. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases involving the Ex-Chief Ministers, Ministers of Union and State Governments pending investigation with the CBI at present and since when; and

(b) the specific reasons for delay in the completion of investigations of each case and when these are expected to be sent to trial courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) 9 cases against Ex-Chief Ministers, Ex-Union Ministers and Ex-Union Ministers of State were under investigation in the CBI as on 31.07.2007. Out of these 9 cases, 5 cases were under investigation for less than one year, 1 case for more than one year and 3 cases for more than two years.

(b) It is the endeavour of the CBI to ensure expeditious completion of investigation in all cases. However, in some cases it takes time because of the complicated nature of cases requiring scrutiny of voluminous documents, examination of large number of witnesses, conducting extensive enquiries and in obtaining opinion of experts to establish the allegations. No definite time frame can be stipulated for completion of the investigation/inquiry.

Pending cases awaiting trial

1918. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that whopping 2,276 long pending cases investigated by CBI are awaiting trial for over twenty years;

(b) whether it is a fact that around 2032 cases are gathering dust in different courts for over ten years; and

(c) whether Government are taking any time bound steps to clear the pending cases since everyday there is addition to pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) 648 CBI cases were pending trial for over twenty years as on 31.07.2007.

(b) 2123 cases were pending trial for over ten years as on 31.07.2007, which include 648 cases pending over 20 years.

(c) The Government has set up 39 Courts of Special Judges in various States exclusively for the trial of CBI cases.

The CBI also endeavours through constant monitoring/supervision, to ensure that there is no delay in trial on its part.